

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LA PAZ 06093 031234Z

65

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 OPIC-03 EB-07 TRSE-00 COME-00

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FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1822

INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LA PAZ 6093

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV BL

SUBJ: OPIC: ARTICLE 51 AND OPIC OPERATIONS IN BOLIVIA

REF: A. LA PAZ 5985, B. STATE 190405

1. EMBASSY APPRECIATES RAPID RESPONSE TO REF A. HOWEVER, PARA 3 OF RESPONSE LACKS CLARITY. DURING HIS VISIT HERE OPIC REPRESENTATIVE MANSBACH MENTIONED ONLY ARTICLE 51 AS THE PROBLEM IN PERMITTING OPIC INSURANCE OF ANDEAN PACT-ORIENTED EQUITY INVESTMENTS IN BOLIVIA. WE WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED SPECIFICALLY WHAT THE OTHER PROBLEMS ARE, AS WELL AS WHY THE PROPOSED SOLUTIONS ON ARTICLE 51 WOULD NOT RESOLVE THE ISSUES IN A SATISFACTORY MANNER. AS DEPARTMENT AND OPIC AWARE, OPIC INSURANCE OF EQUITY INVESTMENT IN THE EXTRACTIVE AND LAND-WONING SECTORS IS POLITICALLY RISKY ON FOREIGN POLICY GROUNDS BECAUSE OF THE TRADITIONAL AND CONTINUING POLITICAL SENSITIVITY OF SUCH INVESTMENTS IN BOLIVIA, BUT WE ASSUME PARA 3 OF REF B REFERS TO GENERAL PROBLEMS VIS-A-VIS THE GOB AND NOT WITH REGARD TO PARTICULAR SECTORS.
STEDMAN

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